



Alachua County Post Disaster Redevelopment Plan

Meeting Minutes of the Alachua County Post-Disaster Redevelopment Plan Kickoff Meeting

April 20, 2009 at Alachua County Health Department Auditorium

Attendees: See sign-in roster for list of attendees

Meeting called to order by David Donnelley, Alachua County Emergency Management Chief. **(Asked David to send his notes to me for the minutes.)**

Meeting turned over to Lisa Flax of PBS&J. There are few plans in existence at this time although Florida does have a requirement for Post Disaster Redevelopment Plan (PDRP) in the coastal counties and it makes sense for inland communities as well. Inquired if everyone has copies of agenda and presentation and have signed in on the roster to be kept in the loop during this project.

Project Team Introductions – Alachua County, PBS&J, EREC.

Attendee Introductions

Roles and Responsibilities – Alachua County – need to have participation from the community to make this plan palatable and implementable. Need to have feedback on the draft and final plan in order to produce a good plan. PBS&J Lead Consultant, EREC Sub-consultant support meeting facilitation and planning work, as well as a NIMS review.

Purpose – This is a umbrella plan to guide strategic development, enhance public-private partnerships for sustainable redevelopment, it is an organized and proactive approach, to facilitate return to pre-disaster conditions when it makes sense, maximize post-disaster opportunities and reduce hazard vulnerability, and ease suffering of citizens and government.

Short-Term Recovery – Alachua County already does this well, Damage Assessment is in place, restoration of utilities, temporary housing. Now need to look at longer term recovery for damage assessment, temporary housing, etc.

Long-Term Recovery – rebuilding housing, public facilities, infrastructure, economy, culture and natural environment, recreational opportunities, revenue streams.

Overview of Storm of September 29, 1896 – what if it happened today? Peak gusts 107 mph. Maximum sustained winds of 84 mph. Impacts in Alachua would be \$15B exposure \$104M total loss, etc. Projections based on Frances/Jean 2004 and Katrina Category 4 – maximum 133 mph sustained winds, \$11B loss, damage for almost every structure.

Question from the audience – What are baselines that this plan will be developed on? Answer: Will be determined by committee. Reference to the Palm Beach County PDRP website for an example of a plan

Question from the audience – Is there a plan to educate the public after it is completed? Answer: Yes, there will be a communications plan for the process of educating the public included in the final plan. It will be publicized and published.

Expectations – Plan that is executable not a doorstop, NIMS compliant, inter-disciplinary, consensus building, active participation, push the envelope – think outside the box, maintain the plan – address changes ongoing, and grow relationships.

Project Schedule – reviewed overall schedule, work already underway.

Project Schedule – reviewed meeting scheduled by quarters; milestones identified.

PDRP Development Process – stakeholder involvement, planning process, issues, proposed outline.

Stakeholders – Alachua County, municipalities – Alachua, Archer, Hawthorne, High Springs, LaCrosse, Micanopy, Newberry and Waldo; UF, SFCC, SA , GRU, Chamber, Front Porch, Builders, Citizen

Question from the audience: Were all those stakeholders identified invited and involved? Were some were left off for a reason? Answer: No. Need to add Clay Electric, FPL, Progress, Central Florida Electric, Public Defender, STJ and Suwannee River Water Management District.

PDRP Planning Process – reviewed slide. Vulnerabilities - high wind events, flooding, wildfire, firewise communities. Major impacts to area, business and future land use.

PDRP Issues – Local Government Capacity, Public Infrastructure and Facility Repair and Mitigation, Housing (temp and long-term), Economic Recovery, Land Use/Redevelopment, Environmental Restoration/Improvement, Cultural Preservation and Quality of Life Improvements, Social, Health and Equity Concerns.

Proposed PDRP Outline – Introduction, Planning Process, Community Profile, Vulnerability Assessment, Capacity Assessment, Recovery & Redevelopment Strategy, Recovery & Redevelopment Action Plan, Communications Plan, Financing Plan, Implementation & Maintenance.

Next Steps – Identify issues, stakeholder sign up for committees, conduct capacity assessment, conduct vulnerability assessment, reconvene committee to complete issue identifications.

Example of Issue – Temporary Housing Considerations – reviewed slide.

Lisa asked everyone to fill out the form and time was given in the meeting to do so. If not able to complete today, please return to David Donnelly.

Question from audience: Where does DOT fit into the picture? Answer: Debris management, roadway restoration, coordination with local road department, major redevelopment that may affect state roadways, mitigation of culverts, elevation. Would like them to be at the table for plan development.

Question: At certain levels, federal and state components should be involved as well? Answer: We can invite Federal Highway Administration, but they may delegate to DOT. Metropolitan planning organizations as well.

Comment from Chief May: The point is that will be key issues post disaster like what can you locate, what can you replace, zoning, rezoning, permitting, etc. County will adopt the plan with all municipal planning organizations involved. We will have a plan in place with everyone in agreement, all can invoke the same plan on a temporary basis to begin operations. This is really critical to expedite a quick response that we have a plan that can be invoked quickly and to proceed in a unified manner.

If you want to have representation on several committees but are concerned about time requirements, consider having someone else from your area that can help with the committees. Keep these individuals informed so they can provide valuable insight and input to the process. Need to build consensus on issues at the meetings.

It is very important to have the right people at the meeting to have the buy-in and support. Working group meetings can occur on their own and then have that information provided to the Committee. What would be the best time for the meetings? It will be difficult to have consensus across the board. Set the meetings and provide 30 days lead-time for the meeting. Monday and Friday will be bad. Tuesday's are bad for elections. Wednesday will be good after work perhaps. Evenings seems to be best from 6 to 8 pm.

Question from audience – Has there been any thought for technology use to work together. Answer: Yes, through SharePoint and WebEx.

Question from audience – Could we get TV and radio involved in the process? Communications with public should not be limited to the website. Answer: Yes, all sources will be investigated.

David closed meeting with thanks for everyone and reiterated that it will take everyone's involvement to do it right.